



June 8, 2007

Ms. Marlene Dortch
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Room TW-B204
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of High-Cost Universal Service Support, WC Docket No. 05-337; In
the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

We are writing this letter to the Commission to endorse the recommendation of the Joint Board on Universal Service to place an interim, emergency cap on the amount of high-cost universal service support that competitive eligible telecommunications carriers may receive.

We appreciate the leadership of Commissioner Tate and the other members of the Joint Board and Staff as they consider the difficult questions associated with the distribution mechanism for universal service support.

We believe that this first step is the best way to begin a process to preserve universal service for the benefit of consumers in North Dakota. Without this critical action and leadership on the part of the Joint Board the benefits that universal service provides to my rural customers would be in serious jeopardy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Keith A. Larson'.

Keith A. Larson
CEO/General Manager

cc: Chairman Kevin J. Martin
Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate
Hon. Ray Baum
Hon. Larry S. Landis
Hon. Lisa Polak Edgar
Hon. John D. Burke
Hon. Billy Jack Gregg
Senator Byron Dorgan
Senator Kent Conrad
Congressman Earl Pomeroy